

REMARKS

The foregoing amendments to the Claims and these Remarks are responsive to the Office Action mailed January 13, 2005. In that Office Action, the Examiner set forth a restriction requirement and required election of one of the following groups under 35 U.S.C. § 121:

- Group I: Claims 1-6 and 9-12, drawn to a molecule;
- Group II: Claims 7-8 and 13-15, drawn to a crosslinked molecule;
- Group III: Claims 16-29, drawn to a method of making a molecule; and
- Group IV: Claims 30-31, drawn to a method of crosslinking a molecule.

In response, Applicants have elected Group I (claims 1-6 and 9-12) and have withdrawn claims 7-8 and 13-31, without prejudice as to Applicant's ability to pursue these claims in a divisional application. This election is made without traverse.

Applicants respectfully request removal of the restriction requirement and allowance of claims 1-6 and 9-12. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned if it is believed that a telephonic interview would expedite the prosecution of the application to an allowance.

No fees are believed due with the filing of this Amendment; however, the Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in any fees due with the filing of this paper or during the prosecution of this application to Deposit Account No. 50-0951.

Respectfully submitted,

AKERMAN SENTERFITT



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